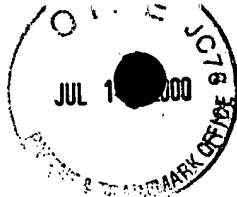


S/N 08/879,070



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JAN 21 2000

GROUP 2700

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: JOHNSON ET AL.

Examiner: A. KALINOWSKI

Serial No.: 08/879,070

Group Art Unit: 2761

Filed: JUNE 19, 1997

Docket No.: 7709.130US01

Title: INVENTORY SALES SYSTEM AND METHOD

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EL488195971US
Date of Deposit: July 19, 2000

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

By: Linda McCormick
Name: Linda McCormick

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Examiner's official paper mailed January 19, 2000, and is being mailed within the allotted time to respond as extended by a Petition to Extend the Time to Respond from April 19, 2000 to July 19, 2000 that has been filed concurrently along with the instant Amendment and a Continuing Patent Application and the required fees. Claims 1-10 are pending as a result of the instant amendment. Re-examination and reconsideration of the application as amended are respectfully requested.

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1 and 8-10 as shown below.

1 (Twice amended) A computer system implemented method for facilitating a sale of a product from an inventory of a selling entity, the computer system including a memory